



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: October 9, 2014

Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by the ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love (Eurofins Lancaster Labs Env). The September 2014 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Greg Tomkovich (Accutest) and seconded by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental).

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP): No update was provided.

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: A program update was provided by Deb Waller (NJDEP-OQA).

As of Oct. 2014, any laboratory that was or will be reporting LT2 data must have participated in at least two acceptable rounds of PT like sample testing. Please note that while crypto and giardia are in the same PT, only crypto is regulated for LT2 sample testing. Giardia PT data is required for accreditation. The PT Table describes the PT samples needed for the EPA Laboratory approval which is not the same as the NELAP requirements. Failing the giardia portion will not result in a loss of certification for crypto but it will result in the loss of certification for giardia. October and April are the only times that these PT studies will be offered. Six labs are accredited in NJ for cryptosporidium, only EMSL is located in NJ.

Questions on the PT Program may be emailed to Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) at: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov

The NELAC Institute (TNI): No update was provided.

Sludge / Biosolids: No program updates were reported. For questions regarding this program contact Anthony Pilawski at Anthony.Pilawski@dep.nj.gov, 609-633-3823.

One notation was made regarding specific allowances that can be made for the 24-hour hold time for micro on sludge samples under method 503.8. Contact Deb Waller (debra.waller@dep.nj.gov) for information.

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water: An update was provided by Linda Bonnette (NJ BSDW).

The Drinking Water Roundtable meeting was held on 9/17/14 at the Horizon Center in Hamilton NJ. Positive feedback was received. There were approximately 100 attendees. The lectures will be posted at www.njwater.org.

A memo clarifying the gross alpha method has been sent out to all certified drinking water laboratories and to licensed operators of water systems. Changes to the method are needed by January 1, 2015. ECLS-R-GA revision 8 is the only EPA approved method and the only permissible method for NJ. For additional information, contact Sreenivas (Vas) Komanduri at 609-984-0855 or Sreenivas.Komanduri@dep.nj.gov.

Questions on the Drinking Water Program may be emailed to Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) at: linda.bonnette@dep.state.nj.us

Site Remediation Program: No update was provided.

Implementation of the Technical Guidance and NJ DKQP process continues with an implementation date of October 29, 2014.

Remediation Standards update – the proposal to move the screening levels for soil impact to groundwater to standards should be made in 2015 with an implementation in 2016.

Questions on the SRP program may be emailed to Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRP) at greg.toffoli@dep.nj.gov. Questions specific to dioxin/furans and PCB congener methods should be directed to Paula Blaze or Robert Royce at NJ DEP.

New Business:

A question was raised regarding the need to archive hard copy original COC documents or if they could be archived electronically as a scanned pdf document. NJ DEP OQA will accept the scanned electronic storage as long as the facility has procedures for computer backup, security, and long-term storage. This approach needs to be confirmed with Greg Toffoli for NJ DEP SRP.

Subcommittees:

MUR Subcommittee: An update was provided by Deb Waller (NJ DEP OQA).

Deb noted that while she and the committee have not progressed as far as was intended with the review and creation of summary tables, this is being done as a courtesy by NJ DEP. Laboratories are responsible for knowing the information. The information is in the Standard Methods, the MUR, and errata documents have been posted.

Electronic Data Deliverables Subcommittee: An update for the SRP-EDD Subcommittee was provided by Andy Geary, Henry Kindervatter, Roger Page, and Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRP-BIS).

The discussion this month again centered on qualifiers. A list of qualifiers was created using information from the labs, the Technical Guidance and given to Greg Toffoli to review. NJ DEP intends to keep the list to the basics while allowing labs to use other qualifiers and defining in a glossary.

The upload portal is still in progress, targeting mid-2015 for completion.

The design of an EDDI “flowchart like” approach to the relationships between samples, contaminants, media and regulations was briefly discussed. ELAC attendees were interested in this approach and some offered to be beta testers when needed. An ELAC attendee also asked if the software model could be used as a training tool for LSRPs. Andy Geary said he would suggest the idea to the SRP Training Committee.

Questions and comments may be directed to Andy Geary (NJDEP-SRP-BIS) at: andy.geary@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date. ELAC members and stakeholders are encouraged to sign up for both the NJDEP-OQA and NJDEP-SRP listserv options to receive email notifications from NJDEP. Please check your email address to be sure it is correct. They are noticing a number of undeliverable emails.

NJDEP has migrated to MS Office 365 which involves a change to their domain name to “dep.nj.gov” that in turn results in changed email addresses. There will be a one-year phase in period until the old email addresses are removed.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental) and, seconded by Sharon Robinson (NJ DOH). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5th Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love at: dorothylove@eurofinsUS.com by Monday, November 3, 2014.

Note: *All visitors must show one form of photo identification, or two non-photo IDs, when signing in at the NJDEP main lobby in the Trenton, New Jersey complex (401, 501, 440 and 428 E. State Street buildings). All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification. **Visitors must be escorted at all times by a NJDEP representative when in the building.***